(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H.R.

To streamline broadband permitting process for broadband services, and for other purposes.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

| Mr. | Curtis | introduced | the | following | bill; | which | was | referred | to | the | Committe | e |
|-----|--------|------------|-----|-----------|-------|-------|-----|----------|----|-----|----------|---|
|     |        | on         |     |           |       |       |     |          |    |     |          |   |

## A BILL

To streamline broadband permitting process for broadband services, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Broadband Permitting
- 5 Modernization Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 7 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:
  - Sec. 1. Short title.
  - Sec. 2. Table of contents.
  - Sec. 2. Enhancing Administrative Reviews for Broadband Deployment Act.
  - Sec. 3. DIGITAL Applications Act.

|    | Sec. 4. Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act. Sec. 5. Rural Broadband Permitting Efficiency Act of 2021. |                |
|----|---|----------------|
| 1  | SEC. 3. ENHANCING ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEWS FOR  | R              |
| 2  | BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ACT.   |                |
| 3  | (a) Short Title.—This section may be cited as the   | e              |
| 4  | "Enhancing Administrative Reviews for Broadband De  | <del>)</del> - |
| 5  | ployment Act''.   |                |
| 6  | (b) Enabling Administrative Review.—  |                |
| 7  | (1) Definitions.—In this section:   |                |
| 8  | (A) Appropriate committees of con   | ſ <b>-</b>     |
| 9  | GRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of  | f              |
| 10 | Congress" means—  |                |
| 11 | (i) the Committee on Energy an  | d              |
| 12 | Commerce of the House of Representa   | ι-             |
| 13 | tives;  |                |
| 14 | (ii) the Committee on Natural Re  | <b>)-</b>      |
| 15 | sources of the House of Representatives;  |                |
| 16 | (iii) the Committee on Commerce   | Э,             |
| 17 | Science, and Transportation of the Senate   | э;             |
| 18 | and   |                |
| 19 | (iv) the Committee on Environmen  | ıt             |
| 20 | and Public Works of the Senate.   |                |
| 21 | (B) Communications facility.—Th   | ıe             |
| 22 | term "communications facility" includes—  |                |
| 23 | (i) any infrastructure, including an  | y              |
| 24 | transmitting device, tower, or support  | rt.            |

| 1  |    | structure, and any equipment, switch, wir-    |
|----|----|---|
| 2  |    | ing, cabling, power source, shelter, or cabi- |
| 3  |    | net, associated with the licensed or per-     |
| 4  |    | mitted unlicensed wireless or wireline        |
| 5  |    | transmission of any writing, sign, signal,    |
| 6  |    | data, image, picture, and sound of any        |
| 7  |    | kind; and                                     |
| 8  |    | (ii) any antenna or apparatus that—           |
| 9  |    | (I) is designed for the purpose of            |
| 10 |    | emitting radio frequency;                     |
| 11 |    | (II) is designed to be operated, or           |
| 12 |    | is operating, from a fixed location           |
| 13 | 1. | pursuant to authorization by the              |
| 14 |    | Commission or is using a duly author-         |
| 15 |    | ized device that does not require an          |
| 16 |    | individual license; and                       |
| 17 |    | (III) is added to a tower, build-             |
| 18 |    | ing, or other structure.                      |
| 19 |    | (C) COMMUNICATIONS SITE.—The term             |
| 20 |    | "communications site" means an area of cov-   |
| 21 |    | ered land designated for communications uses. |
| 22 |    | (D) COMMUNICATIONS USE.—The term              |
| 23 |    | "communications use" means the placement      |
| 24 |    | and operation of communications facility.     |

| 1  | (E) Communications use authoriza-                   |
|----|---|
| 2  | TION.—The term "communications use author-          |
| 3  | ization" means an easement, right-of-way,           |
| 4  | lease, license, or other authorization to locate or |
| 5  | modify a communications facility on covered         |
| 6  | land by the Department concerned for the pri-       |
| 7  | mary purpose of authorizing the occupancy and       |
| 8  | use of the covered land for communications use.     |
| 9  | (F) COVERED LAND.—The term "covered                 |
| 10 | land" means—  |
| 11 | (i) public land administered by the                 |
| 12 | Secretary of the Interior; and                      |
| 13 | (ii) National Forest System land.                   |
| 14 | (G) DEPARTMENT CONCERNED.—The                       |
| 15 | term "Department concerned" means the De-           |
| 16 | partment of the Interior or the Department of       |
| 17 | Agriculture.  |
| 18 | (H) Organizational unit.—The term                   |
| 19 | "organizational unit" means—                        |
| 20 | (i) with respect to public land admin-              |
| 21 | istered by the Secretary of the Interior—           |
| 22 | (I) a State office;                                 |
| 23 | (II) a district office; or                          |
| 24 | (III) a field office; and                           |
| 25 | (ii) within the Forest Service—                     |

| 1  | (I) a regional office;                            |
|----|---|
| 2  | (II) the headquarters;                            |
| 3  | (III) a management unit; or                       |
| 4  | (IV) a ranger district office.                    |
| 5  | (I) Secretary concerned.—The term                 |
| 6  | "Secretary concerned" means—                      |
| 7  | (i) the Secretary of the Interior, with           |
| 8  | respect to public land; and                       |
| 9  | (ii) the Secretary of Agriculture, with           |
| 10 | respect to National Forest System land.           |
| 11 | (2) Study required.—Not later than 1 year         |
| 12 | after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec- |
| 13 | retary concerned shall submit to the appropriate  |
| 14 | committees of Congress a report that—             |
| 15 | (A) provides an assessment on pro-                |
| 16 | grammatic or administrative barriers to review-   |
| 17 | ing communications use authorizations by the      |
| 18 | Department concerned or organizational units      |
| 19 | of the Department concerned;                      |
| 20 | (B) provides an assessment whether there          |
| 21 | are rules or regulations of the Department con-   |
| 22 | cerned that could be revised to improve the effi- |
| 23 | ciency of reviewing a communications use au-      |
| 24 | thorization;                                      |

| 1  | (C) describes the process for prioritizing             |
|----|--|
| 2  | the review of a communications use authoriza-          |
| 3  | tion; and  |
| 4  | (D) provides a plan to ensure adequate                 |
| 5  | staffing throughout organizational units of the        |
| 6  | Department concerned to review communica-              |
| 7  | tions use authorizations in a timely manner.           |
| 8  | SEC. 4. DIGITAL APPLICATIONS ACT.                      |
| 9  | (a) Short Title.—This section may be cited as the      |
| 10 | "Deploying Infrastructure with Greater Internet Trans- |
| 11 | actions And Legacy Applications Act" or the "DIGITAL   |
| 12 | Applications Act".                                     |
| 13 | (b) Establishment of an Online Portal for              |
| 14 | FORM 299.—   |
| 15 | (1) Definitions.—In this section:                      |
| 16 | (A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-                     |
| 17 | GRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of             |
| 18 | Congress" means—                                       |
| 19 | (i) the Committee on Energy and                        |
| 20 | Commerce of the House of Representa-                   |
| 21 | tives;   |
| 22 | (ii) the Committee on Natural Re-                      |
| 23 | sources of the House of Representatives;               |

| 1  | (iii) the Committee on Commerce,                |
|----|---|
| 2  | Science, and Transportation of the Senate;      |
| 3  | and   |
| 4  | (iv) the Committee on Environment               |
| 5  | and Public Works of the Senate.                 |
| 6  | (B) Assistant secretary.—The term               |
| 7  | "Assistant Secretary" means the Assistant Sec-  |
| 8  | retary of Commerce for Communications and       |
| 9  | Information.                                    |
| 10 | (C) DEPARTMENT CONCERNED.—The term              |
| 11 | "Department concerned" means the Depart-        |
| 12 | ment of the Interior or the Department of Agri- |
| 13 | culture.  |
| 14 | (D) FORM 299.—The term "Form 299"               |
| 15 | means the form established under section        |
| 16 | 6409(b)(2)(A) of the Middle Class Tax Relief    |
| 17 | and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.         |
| 18 | 1455(b)(2)(A)) or any successor form.           |
| 19 | (E) Secretary concerned.—The term               |
| 20 | "Secretary concerned" means—                    |
| 21 | (i) the Secretary of the Interior, with         |
| 22 | respect to land administered by such Sec-       |
| 23 | retary; and                                     |
| 24 | (ii) the Secretary of Agriculture, with         |
| 25 | respect to National Forest System land.         |

| 1  | (2) ESTABLISHMENT OF ONLINE PORTAL.—                  |
|----|---|
| 2  | (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1                   |
| 3  | year after the date of enactment of this Act, the     |
| 4  | Secretary concerned shall establish an online         |
| 5  | portal for the acceptance, processing, and dis-       |
| 6  | posal of a Form 299.                                  |
| 7  | (B) Notification.—Not later than 3                    |
| 8  | business days after the date on which the online      |
| 9  | portal has been established pursuant to sub-          |
| 10 | paragraph (A), the Secretary concerned shall          |
| 11 | notify the Assistant Secretary of such establish-     |
| 12 | ment.   |
| 13 | (3) Availability of online portal.—The                |
| 14 | Assistant Secretary shall publish on the website of   |
| 15 | the National Telecommunications and Information       |
| 16 | Administration a link to each online portal estab-    |
| 17 | lished pursuant to paragraph (1)(A).                  |
| 18 | SEC. 5. FACILITATING DIGITAL APPLICATIONS ACT.        |
| 19 | (a) Short Title.—This section may be cited as the     |
| 20 | "Facilitating the Deployment of Infrastructure with   |
| 21 | Greater Internet Transactions And Legacy Applications |
| 22 | Act" or the "Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act".  |
| 23 | (b) Barriers to Implementation of an Online           |
| 24 | Portal for Form 299.—                                 |
| 25 | (1) Definitions.—In this section:                     |

| 1  | (A) Appropriate committees of con-             |
|----|--|
| 2  | GRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of     |
| 3  | Congress' means—                               |
| 4  | (i) the Committee on Energy and                |
| 5  | Commerce of the House of Representa-           |
| 6  | tives;   |
| 7  | (ii) the Committee on Natural Re-              |
| 8  | sources of the House of Representatives;       |
| 9  | (iii) the Committee on Commerce,               |
| 10 | Science, and Transportation of the Senate;     |
| 11 | and  |
| 12 | (iv) the Committee on Environment              |
| 13 | and Public Works of the Senate.                |
| 14 | (B) Assistant secretary.—The term              |
| 15 | "Assistant Secretary" means the Assistant Sec- |
| 16 | retary of Commerce for Communications and      |
| 17 | Information.                                   |
| 18 | (C) COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.—The               |
| 19 | term "communications facility" includes—       |
| 20 | (i) any infrastructure, including any          |
| 21 | transmitting device, tower, or support         |
| 22 | structure, and any equipment, switch, wir-     |
| 23 | ing, cabling, power source, shelter, or cabi-  |
| 24 | net, associated with the licensed or per-      |
| 25 | mitted unlicensed wireless or wireline         |

| 1  | transmission of any writing, sign, signal,          |
|----|---|
| 2  | data, image, picture, and sound of any              |
| 3  | kind; and   |
| 4  | (ii) any antenna or apparatus that—                 |
| 5  | (I) is designed for the purpose of                  |
| 6  | emitting radio frequency;                           |
| 7  | (II) is designed to be operated, or                 |
| 8  | is operating, from a fixed location                 |
| 9  | pursuant to authorization by the                    |
| 10 | Commission or is using a duly author-               |
| 11 | ized device that does not require an                |
| 12 | individual license; and                             |
| 13 | (III) is added to a tower, build-                   |
| 14 | ing, or other structure.                            |
| 15 | (D) Communications use.—The term                    |
| 16 | "communications use" means the placement            |
| 17 | and operation of a communications facility.         |
| 18 | (E) Communications use authoriza-                   |
| 19 | TION.—The term "communications use author-          |
| 20 | ization" means an easement, right-of-way,           |
| 21 | lease, license, or other authorization to locate or |
| 22 | modify a communications facility on covered         |
| 23 | land by the Department concerned for the pri-       |
| 24 | mary purpose of authorizing the occupancy and       |
| 25 | use of the covered land for communications use.     |

| 1  | (F) COVERED LAND.—The term "covered              |
|----|--|
| 2  | land" means—                                     |
| 3  | (i) public land administered by the              |
| 4  | Secretary of the Interior; and                   |
| 5  | (ii) National Forest System land.                |
| 6  | (G) DEPARTMENT CONCERNED.—The                    |
| 7  | term "Department concerned" means the De-        |
| 8  | partment of the Interior or the Department of    |
| 9  | Agriculture.                                     |
| 10 | (H) FORM 299.—The term "Form 299"                |
| 11 | means the form established under section         |
| 12 | 6409(b)(2)(A) of the Middle Class Tax Relief     |
| 13 | and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.          |
| 14 | 1455(b)(2)(A), or any successor form.            |
| 15 | (I) Secretary concerned.—The term                |
| 16 | "Secretary concerned" means—                     |
| 17 | (i) the Secretary of the Interior, with          |
| 18 | respect to land administered by such Sec-        |
| 19 | retary; and                                      |
| 20 | (ii) the Secretary of Agriculture, with          |
| 21 | respect to National Forest System land.          |
| 22 | (2) Barriers to implementation.—                 |
| 23 | (A) In general.—Not later than 90 days           |
| 24 | after the date of enactment of this section, and |
| 25 | every 60 days thereafter until the notification  |

| 1  | described in subparagraph (B), the Assistant         |
|----|--|
| 2  | Secretary shall submit to the appropriate com-       |
| 3  | mittees in Congress a report that—                   |
| 4  | (i) describes whether the Department                 |
| 5  | concerned has established an online portal           |
| 6  | for the acceptance, processing, and dis-             |
| 7  | posal of a Form 299; and                             |
| 8  | (ii) describes any barrier to the estab-             |
| 9  | lishment of an online portal for the accept-         |
| 10 | ance, processing, and disposal of a Form             |
| 11 | 299.   |
| 12 | (B) NOTIFICATION DESCRIBED.—The Sec-                 |
| 13 | retary concerned shall notify the Assistant Sec-     |
| 14 | retary not later than 3 business days after the      |
| 15 | Department concerned has established an online       |
| 16 | portal for the acceptance, processing, and dis-      |
| 17 | posal of a Form 299.                                 |
| 18 | SEC. 6. RURAL BROADBAND PERMITTING EFFICIENCY ACT    |
| 19 | OF 2021.   |
| 20 | (a) Short Title.—This section may be cited as the    |
| 21 | "Rural Broadband Permitting Efficiency Act of 2021". |
| 22 | (b) Definitions.—In this section:                    |
| 23 | (1) Broadband Project.—The term "broad-              |
| 24 | band project" means an installation by a broadband   |
| 25 | provider of wireless or broadband infrastructure in- |

| I  | cluding but not limited to, copper lines, fiber optic  |
|----|--|
| 2  | lines, communications towers, buildings, or other im-  |
| 3  | provements on Federal land.                            |
| 4  | (2) Broadband Provider.—The term "broad-               |
| 5  | band provider" means a provider of wireless or         |
| 6  | broadband infrastructure that enables a user to        |
| 7  | originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graph- |
| 8  | ics, and video telecommunications.                     |
| 9  | (3) Indian Lands.—The term "Indian Lands"              |
| 10 | means—   |
| 11 | (A) any land owned by an Indian Tribe, lo-             |
| 12 | cated within the boundaries of an Indian res-          |
| 13 | ervation, pueblo, or rancheria; or                     |
| 14 | (B) any land located within the boundaries             |
| 15 | of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancheria,        |
| 16 | the title to which is held—                            |
| 17 | (i) in trust by the United States for                  |
| 18 | the benefit of an Indian Tribe or an indi-             |
| 19 | vidual Indian;   |
| 20 | (ii) by an Indian Tribe or an indi-                    |
| 21 | vidual Indian, subject to restriction against          |
| 22 | alienation under laws of the United States;            |
| 23 | or   |
| 24 | (iii) by a dependent Indian commu-                     |
| 25 | nity   |

| 1  | (4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term "Indian Tribe"                |
|----|--|
| 2  | means a federally recognized Indian Tribe.               |
| 3  | (5) OPERATIONAL RIGHT-OF-WAY.—The term                   |
| 4  | "operational right-of-way" means all real property       |
| 5  | interests (including easements) acquired for the con-    |
| 6  | struction or operation of a project, including the lo-   |
| 7  | cations of the roadway, bridges, interchanges, cul-      |
| 8  | verts, drainage, clear zone, traffic control signage,    |
| 9  | landscaping, copper and fiber optic lines, utility shel- |
| 10 | ters, and broadband infrastructure as installed by       |
| 11 | broadband providers, and any rest areas with direct      |
| 12 | access to a controlled access highway or the National    |
| 13 | Highway System.  |
| 14 | (6) Secretary concerned.—The term "Sec-                  |
| 15 | retary concerned" means—                                 |
| 16 | (A) the Secretary of Agriculture (acting                 |
| 17 | through the Chief of the Forest Service), with           |
| 18 | respect to National Forest System land; and              |
| 19 | (B) the Secretary of the Interior, with re-              |
| 20 | spect to land managed by the Department of               |
| 21 | the Interior (including land held in trust for an        |
| 22 | Indian Tribe).   |
| 23 | (e) STATE OR TRIBAL PERMITTING AUTHORITY.—               |
| 24 | (1) In General.—The Secretary concerned                  |
| 25 | shall establish (or in the case where both Depart-       |

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ment of the Interior and National Forest System land would be affected, shall jointly establish) a voluntary program under which any State or Indian Tribe may offer, and the Secretary concerned may agree, to enter into a memorandum of understanding to allow for the State or Indian Tribe to prepare environmental analyses required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42) U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) for the permitting of broadband projects within an operational right-ofway on National Forest System land, land managed by the Department of the Interior, and Indian Lands. Under such a memorandum of understanding, an Indian Tribe or State may volunteer to cooperate with the signatories to the memorandum in the preparation of the analyses required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

## (2) Assumption of responsibilities.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In entering into a memorandum of understanding under this subsection, the Secretary concerned may assign to the State or Indian Tribe, and the State or Indian Tribe may agree to assume, all or part of the responsibilities of the Secretary concerned for environmental analyses under the National

| 1  | Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.    |
|----|--|
| 2  | 4321 et seq.).                                 |
| 3  | (B) STATE OR INDIAN TRIBE RESPONSI-            |
| 4  | BILITY.—                                       |
| 5  | (i) IN GENERAL.—A State or Indian              |
| 6  | Tribe that assumes any responsibility          |
| 7  | under subparagraph (A) shall be subject to     |
| 8  | the same procedural and substantive re-        |
| 9  | quirements as would apply if the responsi-     |
| 10 | bility were carried out by the Secretary       |
| 11 | concerned.                                     |
| 12 | (ii) Effect of assumption of re-               |
| 13 | SPONSIBILITY.—A State or Indian Tribe          |
| 14 | that assumes any responsibility, including     |
| 15 | financial responsibility, under subpara-       |
| 16 | graph (A) shall be solely responsible and      |
| 17 | solely liable for carrying out, in lieu of the |
| 18 | Secretary concerned, the responsibilities      |
| 19 | assumed under that subparagraph until          |
| 20 | the date on which the program is termi-        |
| 21 | nated under paragraph (7).                     |
| 22 | (iii) Environmental review.—A                  |
| 23 | State or Indian Tribe that assumes any re-     |
| 24 | sponsibility under subparagraph (A) shall      |
| 25 | comply with the environmental review pro-      |

| 1  | cedures under parts 1500–1508 of title 40,           |
|----|--|
| 2  | Code of Federal Regulations (or successor            |
| 3  | regulations), and the regulations of the             |
| 4  | Secretary concerned.                                 |
| 5  | (C) Federal responsibility.—Any re-                  |
| 6  | sponsibility of the Secretary concerned de-          |
| 7  | scribed in subparagraph (A) that is not explic-      |
| 8  | itly assumed by the State or Indian Tribe in         |
| 9  | the memorandum of understanding shall remain         |
| 10 | the responsibility of the Secretary concerned.       |
| 11 | (3) OFFER AND NOTIFICATION.—A State or In-           |
| 12 | dian Tribe that intends to offer to enter into a     |
| 13 | memorandum of understanding under this sub-          |
| 14 | section shall provide to the Secretary concerned no- |
| 15 | tice of the intent of the State or Indian Tribe not  |
| 16 | later than 90 days before the date on which the      |
| 17 | State or Indian Tribe submits a formal written offer |
| 18 | to the Secretary concerned.                          |
| 19 | (4) Tribal consultation.—Within 90 days              |
| 20 | of entering into any memorandum of understanding     |
| 21 | with a State, the Secretary concerned shall initiate |
| 22 | consultation with relevant Indian Tribes.            |
| 23 | (5) Memorandum of understanding.—A                   |
| 24 | memorandum of understanding entered into under       |
| 25 | this usbsection shall—                               |

| 1  | (A) be executed by the Governor or the           |
|----|--|
| 2  | Governor's designee, or in the case of an Indian |
| 3  | Tribe, by an officer designated by the governing |
| 4  | body of the Indian Tribe;                        |
| 5  | (B) be for a term not to exceed 10 years;        |
| 6  | (C) be in such form as the Secretary con-        |
| 7  | cerned may prescribe;                            |
| 8  | (D) provide that the State or Indian             |
| 9  | Tribe—   |
| 10 | (i) agrees to assume all or part of the          |
| 11 | responsibilities of the Secretary concerned      |
| 12 | described in paragraph (2)(A);                   |
| 13 | (ii) expressly consents, including               |
| 14 | through the adoption of express waivers of       |
| 15 | sovereign immunity, on behalf of the State       |
| 16 | or Indian Tribe, to accept the jurisdiction      |
| 17 | of the Federal courts for the compliance,        |
| 18 | discharge, and enforcement of any respon-        |
| 19 | sibility of the Secretary concerned assumed      |
| 20 | by the State or Indian Tribe;                    |
| 21 | (iii) certify that State laws and regu-          |
| 22 | lations, with respect to States, or Tribal       |
| 23 | laws and regulations, with respect to In-        |
| 24 | dian Tribes, are in effect that—                 |

| 1  | (I) authorize the State or Indian             |
|----|---|
| 2  | Tribe to take the actions necessary to        |
| 3  | carry out the responsibilities being as-      |
| 4  | sumed; and                                    |
| 5  | (II) are comparable to section                |
| 6  | 552 of title 5, United States Code, in-       |
| 7  | cluding providing that any decision re-       |
| 8  | garding the public availability of a          |
| 9  | document under the State laws is re-          |
| 10 | viewable by a court of competent ju-          |
| 11 | risdiction;                                   |
| 12 | (iv) agrees to maintain the financial         |
| 13 | resources necessary to carry out the re-      |
| 14 | sponsibilities being assumed;                 |
| 15 | (v) agrees to provide to the Secretary        |
| 16 | concerned any information the Secretary       |
| 17 | concerned considers necessary to ensure       |
| 18 | that the State or Indian Tribe is ade-        |
| 19 | quately carrying out the responsibilities as- |
| 20 | signed to and assumed by the State or In-     |
| 21 | dian Tribe;                                   |
| 22 | (vi) agrees to return revenues gen-           |
| 23 | erated from the use of public lands author-   |
| 24 | ized under this section to the United         |
| 25 | States annually, in accordance with the       |

| 1   | Federal Land Policy Management Act of                                      |
|-----|--|
| 2   | 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and   |
| 3   | (vii) agrees to send a copy of all au-                                     |
| 4   | thorizing documents to the United States                                   |
| 5   | for proper notation and recordkeeping;                                     |
| 6   | (E) prioritize and expedite any analyses                                   |
| 7   | under the National Environmental Policy Act of                             |
| 8   | $1969~(42~\mathrm{U.S.C.}~4321~\mathrm{et}~\mathrm{seq.})$ under the memo- |
| 9   | randum of understanding;   |
| 10  | (F) not be granted to a State on Indian                                    |
| 11  | Lands without the consent of the relevant In-                              |
| 12  | dian Tribe; and  |
| 13  | (G) not be granted to an Indian Tribe on                                   |
| 14  | State lands without the consent of the relevant                            |
| 15  | State.   |
| 16  | (6) Limitation.—Nothing in this subsection                                 |
| 17  | permits a State or Indian Tribe to assume—                                 |
| 18  | (A) any rulemaking authority of the Sec-                                   |
| 19  | retary concerned under any Federal law; and                                |
| 20  | (B) Federal Government responsibilities                                    |
| 21  | for government-to-government consultation with                             |
| 22  | Indian Tribes.   |
| 23  | (7) TERMINATION.—  |
| 24  | (A) TERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY.—   |
| 2.5 | The Secretary concerned may terminate the                                  |

| 1  | participation of any State or Indian Tribe in   |
|----|---|
| 2  | the program established under this subsection   |
| 3  | if—   |
| 4  | (i) the Secretary concerned deter-              |
| 5  | mines that the State or Indian Tribe is not     |
| 6  | adequately carrying out the responsibilities    |
| 7  | assigned to and assumed by the State or         |
| 8  | Indian Tribe;                                   |
| 9  | (ii) the Secretary concerned provides           |
| 10 | to the State or Indian Tribe—                   |
| 11 | (I) notification of the determina-              |
| 12 | tion of noncompliance; and                      |
| 13 | (II) a period of at least 30 days               |
| 14 | during which to take such corrective            |
| 15 | action as the Secretary concerned de-           |
| 16 | termines is necessary to comply with            |
| 17 | the applicable agreement; and                   |
| 18 | (iii) the State or Indian Tribe, after          |
| 19 | the notification and period provided under      |
| 20 | clause (ii), fails to take satisfactory correc- |
| 21 | tive action, as determined by the Secretary     |
| 22 | concerned.                                      |
| 23 | (B) TERMINATION BY THE STATE OR IN-             |
| 24 | DIAN TRIBE.—A State or Indian Tribe may ter-    |
| 25 | minate the participation of the State or Indian |

| 1  | Tribe in the program established under this           |
|----|---|
| 2  | subsection at any time by providing to the Sec-       |
| 3  | retary concerned a notice of intent to terminate      |
| 4  | by not later than the date that is 90 days be-        |
| 5  | fore the date of termination.                         |
| 6  | (C) TERMINATION OF MEMORANDUM OF                      |
| 7  | UNDERSTANDING WITH STATE OR INDIAN                    |
| 8  | TRIBE.—A State or an Indian Tribe may termi-          |
| 9  | nate a joint memorandum of understanding              |
| 10 | under this subsection at any time by providing        |
| 11 | to the Secretary concerned a notice of intent to      |
| 12 | terminate by no later than the date that is 90        |
| 13 | days before the date of termination.                  |
| 14 | (d) Federal Broadband Permit Coordina-                |
| 15 | TION.—  |
| 16 | (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary con-                 |
| 17 | cerned shall establish a broadband permit stream-     |
| 18 | lining team comprised of qualified staff under para-  |
| 19 | graph (2)(D) in each State or regional office that    |
| 20 | has been delegated responsibility for issuing permits |
| 21 | for broadband projects.                               |
| 22 | (2) Memorandum of understanding.—                     |
| 23 | (A) In general.—Not later than 90 days                |
| 24 | after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-     |
| 25 | retary concerned, in consultation with the Na-        |

| 1  | tional Conference of State Historic Preservation  |
|----|---|
| 2  | Officers and the National Tribal Historic Pres-   |
| 3  | ervation Officers Association, shall enter into a |
| 4  | memorandum of understanding to carry out          |
| 5  | this subsection with—                             |
| 6  | (i) the Secretary of Agriculture or of            |
| 7  | the Interior, as appropriate;                     |
| 8  | (ii) the Director of the Bureau of In-            |
| 9  | dian Affairs; and                                 |
| 10 | (iii) the Director of the United States           |
| 11 | Fish and Wildlife Service.                        |
| 12 | (B) Purpose.—The purpose of the memo-             |
| 13 | randum of understanding under subparagraph        |
| 14 | (A) is to coordinate and expedite permitting de-  |
| 15 | cisions for broadband projects.                   |
| 16 | (C) STATE OR TRIBAL PARTICIPATION.—               |
| 17 | The Secretary concerned may request that the      |
| 18 | Governor of any State or the officer designated   |
| 19 | by the governing body of the Indian Tribe with    |
| 20 | one or more broadband projects be a party to      |
| 21 | the memorandum of understanding under sub-        |
| 22 | paragraph (A).                                    |
| 23 | (D) DESIGNATION OF QUALIFIED                      |
| 24 | STARE   |

| 1  | (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30           |
|----|---|
| 2  | days after the date of entrance into the    |
| 3  | memorandum of understanding under sub-      |
| 4  | paragraph (A), the head of each Federal     |
| 5  | agency that is a party to the memorandum    |
| 6  | of understanding (other than the Secretary  |
| 7  | concerned) may, if the head of the Federal  |
| 8  | agency determines it to be appropriate,     |
| 9  | designate to each State or regional office  |
| 10 | an employee of that Federal agency with     |
| 11 | expertise in regulatory issues relating to  |
| 12 | that Federal agency, including, as applica- |
| 13 | ble, particular expertise in—               |
| 14 | (I) planning under the Forest               |
| 15 | and Rangeland Renewable Resources           |
| 16 | Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C.             |
| 17 | 1600 et seq.) and planning under the        |
| 18 | Federal Land Policy and Management          |
| 19 | Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);       |
| 20 | (II) the preparation of analyses            |
| 21 | under the National Environmental            |
| 22 | Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321          |
| 23 | et seq.); or                                |
| 24 | (III) consultation and the prepa-           |
| 25 | ration of biological opinions under sec-    |

| 1 tion 7 of the Endangered Specie    | s Act   |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536).            |         |
| 3 (ii) Duties.—Each employee         | des-    |
| 4 ignated under clause (i) shall—    |         |
| 5 (I) be responsible for any         | issue   |
| 6 relating to any broadband p        | roject  |
| 7 within the jurisdiction of the Sta | ate or  |
| 8 regional office under the author   | ity of  |
| 9 the Federal agency from which      | n the   |
| employee is assigned;                |         |
| (II) participate as part o           | f the   |
| team of personnel working on o       | ne or   |
| more proposed broadband project      | ts, in- |
| 14 cluding planning and environn     | nental  |
| analyses; and                        |         |
| (III) serve as the design            | nated   |
| point of contact with any appl       | icable  |
| 18 State or Indian Tribe that ass    | sumes   |
| any responsibility under subs        | ection  |
| (c)(2)(A) relating to any issu       | e de-   |
| scribed in subclause (A).            |         |